

Audio Sermons: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/podcast/caboose-ministries/audiopodcast/id506049887mt=2>

**YouTube** Channel [for dramas, sermons, & puppet shows for kids]: Michael Robert Guertin

Website: [www.cabooseministries.org](http://www.cabooseministries.org)  
Guertin”

**Caboose!** Facebook Site: “Michael ‘Guerty’

January 2022

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

“CABOOSE! MINISTRIES YEAR-END REPORT 2021”



Dear *Friends & Family*,

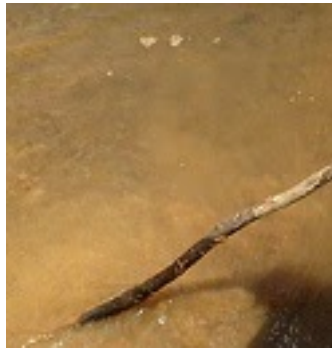
This week will mark the completion of **36 years** of full-time ministry, & **22 years less a month** of living-by-faith itinerant ministry as an *Elim Fellowship* home-missionary. Once again, as in previous years, **2021** encompassed traveling several miles [though significantly lessened by Covid-19 restrictions] to minister in various states, which included **DE, PA, NJ, MD, NY, & OH**. I traveled approximately **2,537 miles** for preaching ministry. **Venues of ministry included Sunday morning whole-family services, an inner-city children & youth outreach, a youth retreat, three youth/children’s summer camps, an addictions’ recovery ministry, a “Villains of Via” Easter Season dramatic production, a memorial service, & a Christian school chapel. Expressions of the Body of Christ I ministered to were Assembly of God, The Hopewell Network of Churches, United Methodist, Fellowship of Full Gospel Churches International, & Independent churches. Because of Covid, my preaching of the Word went into a “Video Virtual Venue” for a vast portion of 2021, just as it did in 2020. This confinement & restriction was a great duress to me who has always been a “people person”. However, I cannot disagree with Kim who has repeatedly told me during this Covid-quarantine-confinement season that I am consistently reaching more people, both old & young, than I ever could via my in-person itinerant work alone. How so? Via my two weekly video productions, vis, “*Chip Sunday Shows*”, & “*Cab!Talks*”- the former for kids {& adults!}**

## "AN OUT-OF-THE-BLUE BLESSED TEXT"



**[11/30]** Kim & I were driving home from Virginia yesterday when I saw a Facebook message pop-up on my cell phone. When we arrived at our destination I was able to read it. I could not believe it. I did not remember this former camper/counselor, but her text broke & humbled me. Here is part of what she wrote: "Hello Bro Guerty!! You might not remember me but I went to **Tel Hai Camp**...I wanted to message you & simply say thank you for having that camp!!! It was where I was able to touch God & have peace for a week. I didn't have a great childhood & even though my family painted a picture of a God-fearing household it was the opposite. I was abused every way you can think of. If not for God saving me at those camps I don't know if I would be here today with a family of my own! I was in worship today & just in the amazing presence of the Lord. [He] stepped in & just reminded me of camp & you came to my mind. The Lord showed me that is where it all started-where He started to work on me! All those lessons that you preached!! I still remember the stone heart you taught about! How God wants us to have a flesh heart & not a stone heart & you showed this **red heart**. I remember just weeping at the altar & feeling Jesus for the first time. I got to know His presence & how to be sensitive to Jesus & to listen for His voice. I just wanted to let you know how much you have impacted my life. Now I am able to heal through Jesus. Camp was the start of it all, way back to when I was **8 years old**. I am able to see that Jesus was love & not like my earthly fathers or mothers. I just want to thank you for the sacrifice you do for those camps. I now have a loving husband & 4 amazing children. My two oldest children...were baptized in Jesus Name. I am living a sold-out life for Jesus!!! We go to [their present church]...It all started at camp!! Just wanted to say thank you & for your work for the Lord!! Thank you!!!" [her name] Wow. What can one say but our Lord Jesus be praised. This is yet another of the many reasons we do camp each year. May it continue. Amen.

“ME: A STICK IN THE MUD?”



[12/9] Speaking of testimonies, I was taken aback & very pleasantly surprised to hear from a dear brother & friend in the Lord whom I rarely have contact with, a.k.a., **Dan Summers**. “Danny”, as I affectionately call him, called me last week out of the blue. And, given what he told me, it was certainly “out of the blue”! Here is what he told me: “I was in prayer this morning & you Michael came into my thoughts & prayers. I felt the Lord impress on my heart that you & your ministry is like the adrenaline that the human body needs desperately in times of distress. It kicks in & empowers the body to do what it would not typically be able to. I also saw a large clear container filled with fluid-the top half was clear but the bottom half was sediment & there was this separation between the two. Then I saw a stick or a spoon dipped into the liquid & it was stirred up & everything blended together again. I felt like this is what you do within the Body of Christ; sometimes believers can become sedimentary in their walk with the Lord & need to be stirred up by the truth of God’s Word. I felt the Lord’s pleasure in your passion to present His word in your own unique way.” [Rev. Daniel Summers] I thanked Dan profusely for being sensitive & obedient to the Lord’s prompt & voice. How I needed to hear this affirmation at this time in my life & ministry. I have been wondering “where God is” with me. What would He have from me at this stage of my life & ministry? Am I in His perfect will? Am I where He wants me & doing what He wants me to do? If not, will He change my desire, focus, vision, & motivation for this change as He has promised to? [Phil.2:13]. I honestly don’t know what else I would do. Every fiber of my being burns to keep doing what I have been doing-at least for the time being. Dan’s word above confirms what another brother in the Lord, a.k.a., **Graham Nelson** from Australia, told me in June of 2000: “Michael, I feel the Lord is saying that you are called to the Body of Christ at large, & not to one specific locale”, et al. My ministry & travel in the past two plus decades has confirmed this.

## “SOLEMN ASSEMBLIES”



Despite having conducted services for decades, I had never described the kind of services/ ministry our Lord has called, motivated, & equipped me for as “solemn assemblies”, but that is precisely what they have been. Beloved? I mourn a lot. A lot. I mourn over the profuse sin in the world, in the Church, & in me. I mourn over the fact that despite how vast, immense, infinite, & glorious our God is, how very little of Him we witness & experience. It is an ache that I cannot convey-& it never goes away. It is a sickness on this side of Heaven that is incurable-and rightly so. If Heaven is as the Scriptures describe it, then while we are on this Earth, this malady *should be* incurable, as nothing but seeing the face of God in Heaven can relieve it. I know our joy is to be in the Person of our Lord-& Him alone. Rejoice. Rejoice in what? Rejoice in THE LORD-His Person, His glory, His attributes, His perfections.

## “THE CARROT & THE DONKEY”



While I should not describe it this way, this insatiable hunger for more of God is, in a way, like the proverbial “carrot in front of the donkey” syndrome. We know the carrot is there; we get a nibble of it from time to time-but not the whole thing. Yet, the constant desire for the whole carrot keeps us following it. Such is my walk with God. Kim asked me many years ago, “Michael-are you content?” I told her, “No.” I am not. I am constantly lovesick for more of the manifestation & possession of God & I don’t know how to get more of Him, than to seek Him constantly. It is all His fault. His love, grace, & forgiveness cause me to love Him more. “He who

is forgiven much-loves much.” His mercy upon my life instead of His much-deserved wrath that should hang over my head, breeds lovesickness in me. It is an ache. It is a drive. Without Him doing this I would be just as worldly & carnal as the next man. This is who I am. I don’t know how to be anyone else. Hence, when I go to a certain place to minister, no matter what age group it is, I bring “me” with it-& what He has made me. He drives me & stirs me; He makes me lovesick. He makes me a “stirring spoon” to His people, as Dan said above. Much of what I see in my travels & online are “3 up/3 down” worship sets, which too often seem like sing-a-longs. I see a routineness, a lethargy, a dangerous familiarity, a flippancy, etc. with the Lord & the things of Him. “If we treat Him lightly, He shows up lightly.” I have said that for years-& it’s still true. I can’t handle this handling of God lightly, Beloved. Every gathering of His people *must* be in reverence & awe. May He help us. God help us.

### “NOT SO BLEAK”

[12/29] While pacing & praying around the house with Kim earlier this morning, I was playing the song “In The Bleak Midwinter” by Peder B. Helland in the background. The words are so powerful. “Angels and Archangels may have gathered there [“there” being the **1st Nativity**], Cherubim and Seraphim thronged the air...”. We know from the **Sacred Text** that yes, there was a “heavenly host” which appeared with the angel who announced the Savior’s birth to the shepherds [Lk.2:13].

### “AN EMPTY THRONE”



Can you imagine these same heavenly hosts’ reaction when they beheld The Lord of Glory descend from His heavenly throne, at His Father’s behest, & all of the sudden vanish from their sight?? Where did He go?? To **Mary’s** womb. In a twinkling of an eye. Can you imagine these same angelic beings beholding their Creator & Lord, to Whom they owe their very existence, lying in a cow’s feeding trough?? Decades later the Apostle Peter said “...these things even angels long to look into...” [1 Pet. 1:12]. Yet-there He is-the last time they beheld Him He was sitting on His Father’s throne. Now He’s lying in a manger.

### “OUR VULNERABLE SAVIOR”



Imagine, if you can, Jesus' vulnerability in the hands of human beings. Yes, even in Joseph & Mary's care. **Joseph** was a righteous man [Mt.1:19], & **Mary** was blessed among women [Lk.1:42]. Yet-they were human-not perfect-not yet glorified. Jesus' life depended on them. The ruthless **Herod the Great** reigned over the area. Yes-Herod-the wife & son killer. One might think the Heavenly Father would wait until "more opportune times" to have His Son become incarnate. Yet, just like the two angels who visited **Lot** in **Sodom** who desired to "spend the night *in the square*" [Gen.19:2], the most dangerous place in Sodom, so our Lord places Himself in the midst of danger & treachery. ***The worst spiritual climate & culture affords the Lord the most opportune stage to display Himself.***

### “WITH SWORDS DRAWN”



We know from our Lord's temptation in the wilderness that the Heavenly Father during Jesus' time on Earth had His angels guard His every step, even to the point of not allowing Him to dash His foot against a stone [Ps.91:12; Lk.4:11]. How much more do you think said angelic hosts were on "red alert" while The Son of God lay helpless in a manger? While praying with Kim & recalling this song's line, "...**Cherubim & Seraphim** thronged the air...", I could not help but



wonder if the Cherubim assigned in Genesis 3:24 to keep man from re-entering the **Garden of Eden** to take from the **Tree of Life** now were present to keep men from taking the life of **The Tree of Life**. Given the holy angels' fervent love, zeal, & loyalty for their Lord, is it stretching the imagination to suppose they had swords drawn while hovering over the 1<sup>st</sup> Nativity? I think not. Going back to our Lord's vulnerability, when Herod learned from the **Magi** that the newborn King was a child two years old or under, & hence planned his "Slaughter of the Innocents", isn't it astounding, even dumbfounding, that our Lord did not have His Angel slaughter Herod & his men as He did **Sennacherib's** army of **185,000** in the Old Testament?? On the contrary-our mighty, sovereign, omnipotent Father with **100 million plus angelic hosts** at His disposal [Dan.7:10] instructs His servants to *flee* with The Child to another country. Even more peculiar-of all of the countries our Father sends them to, it is to **Egypt**-a country This Child, in His pre-incarnate state thousands of years before, *decimated* with plagues! And now, here He is back, as a helpless, vulnerable child. The Lord had sent a band of destroying angels [Ps.78:49] to kill all of the firstborn of Egypt millennia before. Now, perhaps these same angels accompanied & guarded Him to Egypt to *protect* Him! O, who can fathom the depths of the Lord's ways & understand His doings with the sons of men?? I love the Lord. The above musings are some of the reasons why. My heart for this new year is to proclaim the whole counsel of God-as much of Him as I can in the time that He gives me. May it be so. [Michael](#)

**\*Caboose! Commentary Corner:** [Our daughter Laura once said she'd love to have my old Bibles when I passed for all of the notes I have written in them over the decades. This was quite humbling to say the least, especially coming from one of your own children. Hence, I've decided to post each month random notes/comments from Bibles I have studied from]: "... they will see His face..." (Rev.22:4)-"Heaven in a nutshell." [M.R.G. 11/17/'21]

### **Caboose! On The Loose!**

Ministry/Events for **JANUARY** & those not listed in last month's newsletter:

**Jan. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30: Chip Sunday Show video postings**

**Jan. 4: Petra Church, New Holland, PA: hsc board mtg.//Hopewell Network pastors' mtg.**

**Jan. 5, 12, 19, 26: Cab!Talk verse-by-verse commentary productions postings**

**Jan. 19: Elim Fellowship area pastors' zoom meeting**

\*Michael is an ordained *Elim Fellowship* itinerant Stateside missionary & is also licensed to preach the gospel by *Immanuel Church, Wilmington, DE*. *Caboose!* is also an affiliate ministry of *The Hopewell Network of Churches*. For 14 years he served on various local church staffs as their children's pastor. Since 2000 **Kim & he have lived by**

faith, having no set salary, retirement, etc. to speak of. Yet-this is their calling at this season of their lives. Michael preaches God's Word & systematic theology, using both drama & visual aids, to all age groups, from children to senior citizens, either separately or combined. To help support this work [any amount no matter how small is greatly appreciated!], please make all tax-deductible gifts payable to: Elim Fellowship, c/o 1703 Dalton Rd., Lima, NY 14485, marking it "Preferred-Michael Robert Guertin" or you may click on the link below to give directly. Thank you! [click here](#)

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